Amendments to the Claims:

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions, and listings, of claims in the application:

Listing of Claims:

1. (Currently Amended) A method of manufacturing a bismuth based oxide superconducting wire, characterized by the steps of preparing a raw material powder and subjecting the raw material powder to plastic working and heat treatment;

wherein the raw material powder contains superconducting phases comprising Bi, Pb, Sr, Ca, Cu, and O in a composition ~~ration~~ ratio of approximately 2:2:1:2 (Bi+Pb):Sr:Ca:Cu and non-superconducting phases containing Pb;

wherein the composition ratio (Bi+Pb):Sr:Ca:Cu of the raw material powder is approximately 2:2:2:3; and

wherein the ratio of the non-superconducting phases to the superconducting phases is 5 wt% or less.

2. (Currently Amended) A method ~~of manufacturing a bismuth based oxide superconducting wire, characterized by the steps of preparing a raw material powder and subjecting the raw material powder to plastic working and heat treatment~~as recited in claim 1, ~~;~~

wherein the raw material powder contains orthorhombic superconducting phases comprising Bi, Pb, Sr, Ca, Cu, and O in a composition ratio of approximately 2:2:1:2 (Bi+Pb):Sr:Ca:Cu; and

wherein the composition ratio (Bi+Pb):Sr:Ca:Cu of the raw material powder is approximately 2:2:2:3.

3. (Currently Amended) A method ~~of manufacturing a bismuth based oxide superconducting wire, characterized by the steps of~~as recited in claim 1, further comprising the steps of:

~~preparing a raw material powder;~~

subjecting the raw material powder to heat treatment of 600°C to 750°C and at oxygen partial pressure of 0.02 atm or less; and

further performing plastic working and heat treatment on the raw material powder after the heat treatment;

wherein the raw material powder contains Bi, Pb, Sr, Ca, Cu, and O in a composition ratio of approximately 2:2:2:3 (Bi+Pb):Sr:Ca:Cu.

4. (Previously Presented) A bismuth based oxide superconducting wire obtained by the manufacturing method according to claim 1.

5. (Original) A bismuth based oxide superconducting wire obtained by the manufacturing method according to claim 2.

6. (Original) A bismuth based oxide superconducting wire obtained by the manufacturing method according to claim 3.